

Anthropocentric Turn of Late Capitalism

Abstract

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This paper constitutes the first step towards a complex description of the transformation of production relationships under *late capitalism* while paying special attention to the theme of *human emancipation*. The author sets as his goal to study how corporations unknowingly apply Marx's concept of the 'species being', a being which constitutes itself in the process of work, with the aim of keeping capitalist production efficient and up to date with current demand.

To accomplish this, explanations of the concepts 'alienated labour' and 'species being' are presented, drawing mainly from Marx's *Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts* in the context of the evolution of human organizations as described by Frederic Laloux in *Reinventing Organizations*.

The first chapter introduces theses concerning the tendency of capitalism to overcome and outlive itself due to the realization of the *inner antinomies*. One of the manifestations of this phenomenon is the so-called *anthropocentric turn* in which the centre of interest of late-capitalist production is shifted from material goods to man. This anthropocentric turn, enabled by unique material conditions, introduces fundamental changes to the production process, work organization, and workplace relationships in the world of contemporary work.

The second chapter of this paper analyses the concept of self-realization of the species being in the process of work, with the aim to show that the acceptance of this anthropology – and it will be shown that this acceptance is *necessary* – is a specific historical milestone, which separates late capitalism from its preceding phases, and that only in this phase can we finally observe active attempts at overcoming capitalism.

The third part of this paper constitutes the application of Marx's anthropology of the species being and of the concept of alienated labour on Laloux's evolutionary scaling of organizations along with the theoretical outlook on the future of the production process and social relationships in Teal organizations of the future. The aim of this work is to show how corporations unknowingly accept Marx's conception of man and actively transform themselves in their striving to preserve capitalism by overcoming its inherent antinomies.

Keywords

species being, self-realization, alienation, emancipation, work, happiness, production process, social superstructure, the future of organizations, Marx, Laloux